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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/813,064	03/31/2004	Kuo Yuin Li	4459-145	5285
7590 02/07/2006				
LOWE HAUPTMAN GILMAN & BERNER, LLP Suite 310 1700 Diagonal Road Alexandria, VA 22314			EXAMINER CHUNG, DAVID Y	
			ART UNIT 2871	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 02/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/813,064

Applicant(s)

LI ET AL.

Examiner

David Y. Chung

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 18-20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4-17 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

- 1. Claim 1 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Yamauchi et al. (U.S. 6,866,404).**

Yamauchi discloses an illumination apparatus for use in a liquid crystal projector. Note in figure 8, the LCD screen panel 1, light source 3, projection lens 17, and polarizing means comprising lens arrays 10a and 10b and polarization alignment prism array 11. See column 11, line 40 – column 13, line 53.

- 2. Claims 1 and 2 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ohuchi et al. (U.S. 6,201,645).**

As to claim 1, Ohuchi discloses an optical lighting system comprising an array lens for use in an imaging apparatus. Note in figure 2, the light source 13, polarizing means comprising polarized beam splitter 8 and half-wave plate 9, and lens projecting lens 3. See column 2, line 24 – column 6, line 15. Ohuchi teaches that the light from the projection lens 3 is projected to the display screen. See column 7, lines 5-11.

As to claim 2, note in figure 2, mirrors 15-17, 20 22 and 23 for reflecting light to the display screen.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claim 3 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamauchi or Ohuchi in view of Yamanaka et al. (U.S. 6,992,832).

Neither Yamauchi nor Ohuchi teach placing a Fresnel lens at a side of the screen panel. However, Yamanaka et al. teaches that Fesnel lenses are very effective at suppressing the divergence angle of light emitted from the light source. See column 33, lines 49-60. This would lead to better display quality due to more even lighting.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to place a Fresnel lens at a side of the screen panel in order to obtain the aforementioned improvement in display quality.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4-17 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 18-20 allowed.

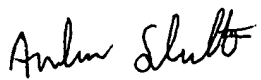
The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art did not teach or suggest the additional lens elements recited by these claims, such as having a specific condenser lens, relay lens, and projection lens, or two lens arrays each comprising multiple lenses.

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David Chung whose telephone number is (571) 272-2288. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

David Chung
GAU 2871
02/06/06


ANDREW SCHECHTER
PRIMARY EXAMINER